

National Organic Standards Board Meeting, Austin, Texas, May 13-14, 2003

Processing Committee Report: Food Contact Substances

DRAFT

Introduction: This report concerns materials used as food contact substances in the handling and processing of food labeled as organic and made with organic.

Background: In October 2002 the NOSB Processing Committee/Materials Review Task-Force submitted several recommendations concerning the scope of materials review for ingredients in processed food labeled as organic and made with organic. Included is a brief summary of the recommendation(s) passed in October 2002:

- The taskforce recommends that direct and secondary direct food additives are subject to NOSB review. Indirect food additives are not subject to NOSB review.
- The NOSB Processing Taskforce recommends that all nonagricultural (non-organic) substances that are classified as either direct, secondary direct or GRAS food additives (21CFR 172, 173, 180, 181, 182 & 184) are subject to the National List Material Review Process.
- The NOSB Processing Taskforce recommends that all nonagricultural (non-organic) substances that are classified 27CFR part 24 (wine) section 246 (materials authorized for treatment) be subject to the National List Material Review Process.
- The NOSB Processing Taskforce recommends that all nonagricultural (non-organic) substances that are classified as indirect food additives (21 CFR 174 – 178 & 186) are exempt from the National List Material Review Process.
- The NOSB Processing Taskforce recommends that the annotation referencing the use of chlorine on food contact surfaces is beyond the scope of NOSB review. The use of chlorine in water used as an ingredient, however, is within the scope, and is subject to the National List Material Review Process. Therefore, the taskforce recommends that the words, “disinfecting and sanitizing food contact surfaces, Except, That,” be deleted from the annotation.

The following data as presented in the addendum was discovered while developing the recommendation(s). Therefore this addendum is essentially an initial report recognizing that F.D.A. regulation concerning food contact substances can and may effect how and when certain secondary direct food additives are reviewed. Consequently, this addendum was attached to the processing committee recommendation(s) in October, 2002 and is included to accurately depict work in progress.